

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 3973, a bill to provide for a study of the recommendations of the Joint Federal-State Commission on Policies and Programs Affecting Alaska Natives. H.R. 3973 authorizes \$350,000 in funding to the Alaska Federation of Natives to study how to implement the findings of the Alaska Native Commission, which was established under Public Law 101-379.

In 1990, the Commission, which was funded jointly by Federal and State appropriations, made a comprehensive study of the social and economic conditions of Alaska Natives and the effectiveness of programs and policies of the United States and the State of Alaska which provide services to the Alaska Native communities.

In May 1994, the Commission issued a three-volume report containing many policy recommendations regarding Alaska Native Physical Health; Social/Cultural Issues and the Alcohol Crisis; Economic Issues and Rural Development; Alaska Native Education; and Self-Governance and Self-Determination. By enacting H.R. 3973, Congress will provide Alaska Natives with a process to determine the most appropriate means to implement the findings of the Commission. I would like to commend the hard work of my colleagues from Alaska, Senator MURKOWSKI and Senator STEVENS, on this important legislation.

This bill is noncontroversial and is widely supported by both the Alaska Native communities and the Administration for Native Americans within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. I urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 3973.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I rise today to express my strong support for passage of the Alaska Native Commission study bill. This legislation is the product of years of study and candid self-appraisal by Alaska Natives about their standard of living conditions and the need to address these problems. While this self-appraisal has been exhaustive, it has not been pessimistic. On the contrary, the study is evidence of an exciting time for Alaska Natives, for they are taking the initiative to work to improve their standard and way of life. Their efforts will lead to a strengthening of their livelihoods and their pride in being both Alaska Natives and American citizens. I am proud that this bill will be part of that process.

In 1989, Congressman Young and I introduced a bill that became Public Law 101-379. Public Law 101-379 established the Joint Federal-State Commission on Policies and Programs Affecting Alaska Natives, better known as the Alaska Natives Commission. Among its many recommendations, the Commission

called for Federal funding to examine how best to implement the recommendations of the Commission. The purpose of this bill is to establish the funding, in the amount of \$350,000, for such a study.

From the beginning, the efforts of the commission have involved cooperation from both the Federal and Alaska State governments, and I am pleased to announce that this process will continue. The Commission was jointly funded by the Alaska State and Federal governments. Half of the 14 Commission members were appointed by the President, and half by the Governor. The Alaska congressional delegation and the Alaska Federation of Natives have already worked with State government representatives throughout this past summer to discuss ways to implement some of the findings of the Commission. I call on the State to stay active in the implementation process, and to assist the effectiveness of the study by appropriating additional funds to operate the study. I am confident that through the active participation of all interested parties, the study will lead to realistic and effective recommendations for implementation of the Commission's recommendations.

I thank my colleagues Congressman YOUNG for getting this bill passed by the House of Representatives, Indian Affairs Committee Chairman, Senator MCCAIN for moving the bill through the Senate expeditiously, and Senator STEVENS for securing the appropriations to fund this bill.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read the third time, and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill appear at this point in the RECORD.

The bill (H.R. 3973) was deemed read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and that the Senate turn to the immediate consideration of Senate resolution 300.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 300) designating the week of November 3, 1996, as "National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to, en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any state-

ments relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 300) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 300

Whereas Shaken Baby Syndrome describes the consequences that occur when a young child is violently shaken;

Whereas Shaken Baby Syndrome is so lethal that 20 to 25 percent of its victims die, and most survivors suffer brain damage;

Whereas Shaken Baby Syndrome accounts for 10 to 12 percent of all child abuse and neglect cases in the United States;

Whereas 25 to 50 percent of teenagers and adults do not know that shaking a baby is dangerous;

Whereas education is the key to preventing this tragedy; and

Whereas the United States Senate has a continuing commitment to the health and safety of this Nation's children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the week of November 3, 1996, as "National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week". The President is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMERICAN FREE ENTERPRISE DAY

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of Senate Resolution 291, and that the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 291) designating November 18, 1996, as "American Free Enterprise Day."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 291) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 291

Whereas American prosperity is founded on the free enterprise system of individual opportunity and economic freedom;

Whereas the roots of American free enterprise can be found in the experiences of the people of Jamestown and Plymouth, the earliest American colonies;

Whereas the basis of free enterprise is the right to ownership of private property, which ensures to individuals the fruits of their own labor and encourages the virtues of self-reliance, thrift, and industriousness;